

The diet includes insects, seeds and many fruits, most of the latter picked from the ground, but sometimes also from trees. At Sooretama, fruits of *Eugenia* (Myrtaceae), *Ferdinandusa* (Rubiaceae) and *Eschweilera* (Lecythidaceae) are eaten, but *C. blumenbachii* is also fond of some kinds of tender leaves and a characteristic sign of their foraging is the presence of bushes with their leaves half eaten.

C. blumenbachii is one of the 3 most endangered Brazilian species of Cracidae (Sick 1972, Sick & Teixeira 1979), its known range now being restricted to the still forested parts of southern Bahia and two localities in Espírito Santo (the Sooretama Reserve and the "Fazenda Klabin", município de Conceição da Barra). Although officially protected since 1967, the species is still decreasing as a result of illegal hunting and the continued deforestation of its already much reduced range in southern Bahia. If this situation does not change, it will probably be confined to two or three islands of forests in the near future.

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IN BRIEF

Nomenclatural notes on the phalaropes

It is widely understood that, in the *Systema Naturae*, Linnaeus signified those specific names that he intended as nouns in apposition to the generic name by the use of a capital initial letter. Such names do not change their ending, no matter what the gender may be of the name of any genus to which they may be transferred. In a few instances, this Linnaean convention has been overlooked, and the gender of a specific name incorrectly altered. I pointed this out (Parkes 1958, *Auk* 75: 479) in the case of *Lanius Garrulus* Linnaeus, which was incorrectly changed to "garrula" by many authors after the waxwing was transferred to the feminine genus *Bombycilla*.

Oberholser (1974, *The Bird Life of Texas*: 981) called attention to a similar

case in the genus *Phalaropus*, but his completely valid correction has been generally overlooked, probably because of the many dubious or invalid nomenclatural innovations proposed in this posthumous book. Linnaeus (1758, *Syst. Nat.* 1: 148) described *Tringa Fulicaria*; when this species was placed in the genus *Phalaropus*, virtually all authors changed the spelling of the specific name to *fulicarius*. In using a capital initial letter, Linnaeus showed his intent that *Fulicaria* should be considered a noun, and the ending should thus not be altered when this name is transferred to a masculine genus. Oberholser correctly gave the name of this bird as *Phalaropus fulicaria*. On the other hand, the specific name of *Tringa lobata* Linnaeus, having been spelled with a lower case initial, is an adjective, and is properly changed to *lobatus* when placed in the genus *Phalaropus*.

A word on the English names of phalaropes is in order. The American Ornithologists' Union Committee on Classification and Nomenclature, now engaged in preparing the sixth edition of its check-list for 1983 publication, has voted to conform to traditional British usage in calling *Phalaropus lobatus* "Red-necked" rather than "Northern" Phalarope. This is a step toward international standardization of English names of birds, and the British name was considered to be appropriately descriptive. The American committee, however, retains Red Phalarope for *P. fulicaria* rather than Grey Phalarope of British usage. In this instance the American name was considered to be the appropriate one, as it describes the unique breeding season dress of this species, whereas *all* phalaropes are grey in winter.

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A long overlooked homonymy in the family Tinamidae

Hellmayr & Conover (1942) used the name *Nothura maculosa major* (Spix) for the subspecies of the Spotted Tinamou found in interior Brazil. This name is based on *Tinamus major* Spix (1825: 64, pl. 80), and was adopted in 2 recent reference works by Blake (1977, 1979). Unfortunately, *Tinamus major* Spix, 1825, is preoccupied by *Tetrao major* Gmelin, 1789, the basis for the accepted name *Tinamus major* of the Great Tinamou. This is not an instance of secondary homonymy. The generic name *Tinamus* was introduced by Hermann in 1789, and had been widely adopted long before 1825, the date of Spix's publication. There was thus already a *Tinamus major* (Gmelin) when Spix introduced his own *Tinamus major*, making Spix's name a junior homonym and unavailable.

There is, however, another Spix name available for the same subspecies of Spotted Tinamou. Hellmayr (1906) identified the holotype of *Tinamus medius* Spix (1825: 65, pl. 81) in the Munich Museum as an immature specimen of *Nothura maculosa*. Both holotypes, those of *Tinamus major* and *T. medius* Spix, came from "Tejuco" (=Diamantina, Minas Gerais, Brazil), and are thus referable to the same population. The Spotted Tinamou of interior Brazil thus becomes *Nothura maculosa media* (Spix).

Emmet R. Blake of the Field Museum of Natural History was kind enough to verify the findings outlined above.